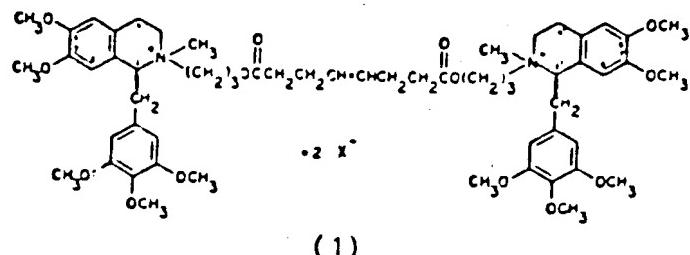


We claim:

1. A compound of the formula (1)



wherein X is a pharmaceutically acceptable anion.

2. A compound of claim 1 wherein the central double bond is in the (E) configuration or (Z) configuration.
3. A compound of claim 2 which is the RS-RS diastereomer.
4. A compound of claim 2 which is the RS-RR diastereomer.
5. A mixture comprising the RS-RS, RS-RR and RR-RR diastereomers of a compound of the formula (1) as described in claim 2.
6. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (1) described in claim 1, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

7. A method of producing muscle relaxation in a mammal which comprises parenterally administering to a mammal an effective muscle relaxation amount of a compound of claim 1.
8. The method of claim 7 in which the compound is administered in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
9. A compound of claim 1 where X is C1.
10. A mixture according to claim 5 wherein X is C1.
11. A composition according to claim 6 wherein X is C1.
12. A method according to claim 7 wherein X is C1.
13. A compound of claim 1 which is the 2,2'[(E)-4-Octenedioylbis(oxymethylene)]bis[1R,2R-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium] cation in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable anion.
14. A compound of claim 1 which is the (E)-(1R,1'R,2R,2'S)-2,2'-(4-Octenedioylbis(oxymethylene))bis[1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)isoquinolinium] cation in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable anion.

15. A compound of claim 1 which is the
2,2'~[(E)-4-Octenedioylbis)oxytrimethylene]bis[(1R,2S)-1,2,3,4-
tetrahydro-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)
isoquinolinium] cation in association with a pharmaceutically
acceptable anion.
16. A method for producing muscle relaxation in a mammal which
comprises parenterally administering to a mammal an effective
muscle relaxant amount of one or more of the compounds of claims
13, 14, or 15.
17. A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more of the
compounds of claims 13, 14, or 15 and a
pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.
18. A compound of claim 13, 14, or 15, in which the anion
is the chloride anion.